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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/709,939	06/08/2004	Pao-Ching Tseng	MTKP0163USA	3938
27765	7590	07/25/2007	EXAMINER	
NORTH AMERICA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CORPORATION			PHAN, DEAN	
P.O. BOX 506			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
MERRIFIELD, VA 22116			2182	
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
07/25/2007		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

winstonhsu.uspto@gmail.com
Patent.admin.uspto.Rcv@naipo.com
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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/709,939	TSENG, PAO-CHING
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Dean Phan	2182

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05/15/2007.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-4 and 6-10 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-4 and 6-10 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

In response to the amendments filed on 05/15/2007, claims 5, 10 were cancelled.

Claims 1-4, 6-9 are under examination.

The new limitations "according to a command from the host" alter the scope of the claims. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-4, 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wang (U.S Pub# 20050198425).

The applied reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed

but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention “by another,” or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

As to claim 1, Wang teaches an electronic apparatus (F.6) comprising:

 a controller (controller 612) having a serial AT Attachment port (controller port to bus 610, par. 8; SATA), and being electrically coupled to a host (host 602) through the SATA port (host port to bus 610); and

 a plurality of peripheral devices (devices 604-608) electrically coupled to the controller using digital means (*Bus, ports between peripheral devices and controller 30*)

 wherein the controller is for allowing the host to access the peripheral devices through the SATA port (par 28); and

 the peripheral devices include a first peripheral device and a second peripheral device (par. 28), and the controller is further for directly transferring data stored on the first peripheral device to the second peripheral device according to a command from the host but without buffering the data in the host and without transferring the data through the SATA port (par. 34).

As to claim 2, all limitations are in claim 1 with further: the controller operates as a port multiplier (*one port from host with multiple ports to multiple peripheral devices*) to allow the host to access the peripheral devices through the SATA port.

As to claim 3, all limitations are in claim 1 with further: the peripheral devices electronically coupled to the SATA controller comprise an optical storage drive (optical 608) and a non-volatile storage device (flash card 316).

As to claim 4, all limitations are listed in claim 3 with further: a flashcard access device (par. 28) or a hard-disk drive.

As to claims 6-10, all the same elements of Claims 1-5 are listed, but in method form rather than system form. Therefore, the supporting rationale of the rejection to Claims 1-5 apply equally as well to Claims 6-10.

The following is another rejection based on different prior art(s)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-4, 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chen et al (US Pub# 2004/0088840).

As to claim 1, Chen et al teach an electronic apparatus (F.1) comprising:

a controller (F. 1 controller 12) having a SATA port (par. 20; port connected to computer interface controller 22), and being electrically coupled to a host (F.2 computer 32) through the SATA port (port connected computer 32); and

a plurality of peripheral devices (F.2 devices 24, 26) electrically coupled to the controller using digital means (*media interface between peripheral devices and controller 50*)

wherein the controller is for allowing the host to access the peripheral devices through the SATA port (par 19); and

the peripheral devices include a first peripheral device (optical drive 14 and 24) and a second peripheral device (card reader 16 and memory card 26), and the controller is further for directly transferring data stored on the first peripheral device to the second peripheral device according to a command from the host (par 2, 9), without buffering the data in the host and without transferring the data through the SATA port (Fig. 6, par. 21, 26, 29; *Directly read and play without transferred through the host*).

As to claim 2, all limitations are in claim 1 with further: the controller operates as a port multiplier (*one port from host with multiple ports to multiple peripheral devices*) to allow the host to access the peripheral devices through the SATA port.

As to claim 3, all limitations of claim 1 with further: the peripheral devices are non-volatile storage device (memory card) and optical storage device (optical drive 24)

As to claim 4, all limitations are listed in claim 3 with further: a flash card access device (par. 3) or a hard-disk drive.

As to claims 6-10, all the same elements of Claims 1-4 are listed, but in method form rather than system form. Therefore, the supporting rationale of the rejection to Claims 1-4 apply equally as well to Claims 6-9.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following prior arts are from the same field of transferring data without ATA/SATA host.

U.S 20030212859 Jepsen et al

U.S 20050132040 Ellis et al

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

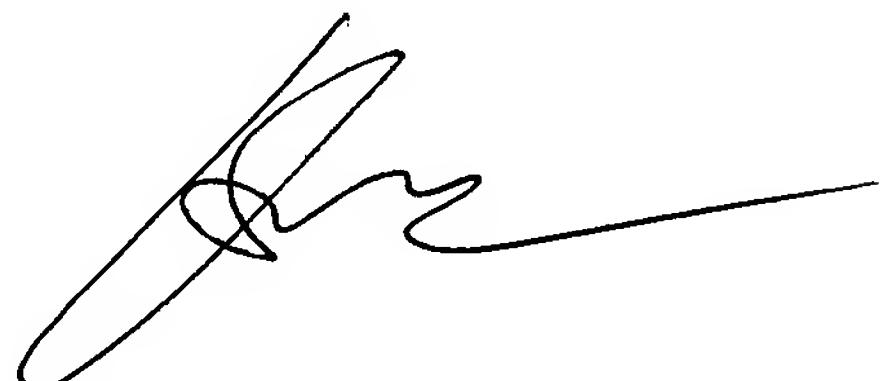
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dean Phan whose telephone number is (571) 270-1002. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu; 9:30AM - 5:00PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Huynh can be reached on (571) 272-4147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

dp



KIM HUYNH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

